

01/14/2010

Amendments to the Claims

Listing of Claims

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (withdrawn) A process for producing a pharmaceutical composition comprising the steps:

- (a) forming a feed solution comprising a drug, a concentration-enhancing polymer and a solvent;
- (b) directing said feed solution to a spray-drying apparatus comprising
 - (i) a drying chamber having a volume V_{dryer} and a height H ,
 - (ii) atomizing means for atomizing said feed solution into droplets,
 - (iii) a source of heated drying gas for drying said droplets, said source delivering said drying gas to said drying chamber at a flow rate of G , and
 - (iv) gas-dispersing means for dispersing said drying gas into said drying chamber, said gas-dispersing means causing organized plug flow of said drying gas,

wherein V_{dryer} is measured in m^3 ,

H is at least 1 m,

G is measured in m^3/sec ,

and wherein the following mathematical relationship is satisfied

$$\frac{V_{dryer}}{G} \geq 10 \text{ seconds};$$

- (c) atomizing said feed solution into droplets in said drying chamber by said atomizing means, said droplets having an average diameter of at least 50 μm and a D_{10} of at least 10 μm ;
- (d) contacting said droplets with said heated drying gas to form particulates of a solid amorphous dispersion of said drug and said concentration-enhancing polymer; and